



The documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in an observation by a third party in a related European application. Please note, the international publications WO 97/01644 and WO 97/13877 as well as the US Patent No. 5,736,332 mentioned in the observation were not included on the form 1449 as they were each previously cited in an earlier Information Disclosure Statement for the subject application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
 - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of is enclosed.
 - ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
 - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
 - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below and a check in the amount of is enclosed.
 - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.



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The information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 441472000500. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: April 3, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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Form PTO 1449

Docket Number 441472000500

Application Number 09/881626

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant

H. Ralph SNODGRASS

Filing Date June 14, 2001

Group Art Unit 1627

Mailing Date April 3, 2002



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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO
	1.	04/08/1998	0 834 575 A2, 3, B1	Europe			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title
	2.	Communication Pursuant to Article 115(2) EPC. (January 15, 2002). Observations filed by a third party concerning the patentability of the invention.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



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FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number Of Pages In This Submission

6 + 2 Refs.

Application Number

09/881,526

Filing Date

June 14, 2001

First Named Inventor

H. Ralph SNODGRASS

Group Art Unit

1627

Examiner Name

To Be Assigned

Attorney Docket No.

441472000500

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)☐ Fee Transmittal Form☐ Assignment Papers
(for an Application)☐ After Allowance Communication to Group☐ Fee Attached☐ Drawing(s)☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences☐ Amendment / Reply☐ Licensing-related Papers☐ Appeal Communication to Group
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐ After Final☐ Petition☐ Proprietary Information☐ Affidavits/declarations☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application☐ Status Letter☐ Extension of Time Request☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation
Change of Correspondence Address☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):☐ Express Abandonment Request☐ Terminal DisclaimerForm PTO-1449 (1 page in duplicate)
2 cited references
Return receipt postcard☒ Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages)☐ Request for Refund☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____☐ Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application☐ Response to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

Firm

Morrison & Foerster LLP, 755 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, California 94304-1018

or

Individual Name

Cara M. Coburn, Reg. No. 46,631

Signature

Date

April 3, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 3, 2002.

Martina Placid

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